

Unity of invention exists only when there is a technical relationship among the claimed inventions involving one or more special technical features.

The Examiner suggests that there is no special technical feature uniting Groups I-XXII. In fact, all of the alternative processes in claim 10 are of a similar nature. All have the same activity, i.e. the production of the compound of claim 18. And all of the reactions are related, with at least one of the reactants being a similar cyclic compound.

For the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that the Restriction Requirement is improper, and respectfully request that it be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified application is now in condition for examination on the merits, and early notice of such action is earnestly solicited.

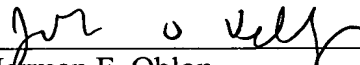
Respectfully submitted,

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